Development (195 49 ) Department.

SERIES.

G.O. No. 921

Dated 24-2-1949

[Despatch Abstract.]

Agriculture - Fruit Development - Ceded districts Soil survey - Council question 142 - Papers recorded.

## THE REPORT OF THE FRUIT SPECIALIST.

120 Q Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether it is some years since the Fruit Specialist submitted his report on the possibilities of fruit cultivation in Rayalaseema

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what active steps, if any, have been taken by the Government to give effect to the Specialist's recommendations

(c) whether recently a Soil Survey Officer was appointed to carry out soil survey;

(d) what the recommendations of the Soil Survey Officer are: and

(e) whether the Government have passed orders on the report of the Soil Survey Officer, and if so, what these orders are ?

The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon:-"(a) The report of the Fruit Specialist was made in 1943.

(b) and (c): The Hon. Member is referred to the answers given to his question on 31st January 1947. The Government examined the report of the Fruit Specialist in consultation with the Director of Agriculture, Board of Revenue, etc., and as a first step they appointed in May 1946 a Soil Survey Officer in the Agricultural Department for investigating the following five areas in Bellary, Kurnool and Cuddapah districts for suitability for fruit cultivation with reference to sub-soil strata.

Bellary district.-(1) Red-soil stretches on the Ujjini-Kottur road in Kudligi taluk.

Kurnool district.-(2) Rudravaram Firka in Sirvel taluk, (3) stretch of land along the Kurnool-Giddalore road between Diguvametta and Giddalore town

Cuddapah district.- (4) Parts of Kodur Firka in Rajampe taluk, and (5) parts of Vontimetta Valley in Sidhout taluk.

(d) and (e) The report of the Soil Survey Officer was submitted to Government in January 1948. The recommendations of the Soil Survey Officer for each area surveyed and the action taken by the Government on the recommendations are given below

the soil conditions over the remaining portion of the area are favourable for fruit cultivation. The greatest drawback to the development of this area is lack of irrigation facilities, the water-table being very low. The development of this area is intimately bound up with the availability of adequate and good sub-soil water and for deciding this question trial borings will be necessary. The Govt. have called for detailed proposals for conducting trial borings in this area to ascertain the availability of subsoil water for fruit-cultivation. The proposals are awaited.

Kodur firka-Cuddapah district.-The conditions available in this area are favourable for extension of the area under fruit cultivation. The Director of Agriculture has been asked to submit detailed proposals for extending fruit cultivation in this area on the lines of the recommendations made by the Fruit Specialist in his report. The Director of Agriculture's report is awaited.

Vontimetta-Cuddapah district.- There is considerable erosion in this area and stretches of good soil are nowhere extensive. Except for small areas in certain villages there are very little prospects of any large-scale extension of the area under fruits. The salient features of the report on the soil survey are proposed to be published shortly as a Press Note and also as a bulletin of the Agricultural Department. Instructions have also been issued to publish the statistical portion of the report in a suitable scientific journal of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research or in the departmental journals. It may also be stated that originally the Fruit Specialist in his report suggested 22 sites for the development of fruit cultivation in the Ceded districts. The question of conducting a survey of the remaining 17 sites to ascertain their suitability for development of fruit-cultivation is also engaging the attention of Government and proposals in this regard are awaited from the Director of Agriculture."

Dr. V.K. John:- "Are any steps being taken for the lopment of fruit culture in other parts of the Province, ticularly Malabar ?"

The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon:-"Yes, Sir; the Government propose to have a fruit farm, if possible, in each district. Schemes are almost ready for attaching a fruit section to the existing agricultural farms which are now 47 in number, and almost every district will have fruit farm."

Dr. V.K. John:-"When do the Government expect to imple- that scheme ?"

Development Department.

To A.S.

Please see the printed proceedings of the Assembly at pp. ~~9-13 c.f.~~ 1-2

A. on p.12 c.f. The proposals of the Director of Agriculture for opening fruit farms at the Agricultural Research Stations in this Province wherever feasible have already been sanctioned.

B. on p.1x c.f. A press note containing the salient features of the Soil Survey Report hax has already been issued.

The papers may now be recorded.

G.O.Ms.No.931, dated the 24th February 1949.

Abstract

Agriculture - Fruit Development - Ceded Districts - Soil Survey - Council question No.143 Papers Recorded.

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